

During 1968 or 1969, I joined the 'Minutemen' organization. The M.M. is a right-wing group with headquarters in Norborne, Missouri, whose leader is Robert B. DePugh. I joined the group to learn more about it because my interest had been aroused by numerous articles concerning the group in the St. Louis 'Post-Dispatch'. During my high school and college years I was very interested in politics and worked for several candidates in various elections.

My interest in the M.M. was waning as I found out more about the group but within a few months after joining I was approached by an agent of the FBI who asked if I would simply send my correspondence from the M.M. to him. After several months of forwarding mail with lessening contact from the agent, I began to lose interest in that also.

Once again, a few months later, I was again contacted by another agent of the FBI, Stanley F. Jacobsen. We met and Jacobsen told me the first agent had retired and that my file had been turned over to him. He asked me to resume the mailings and address them to a Bruce Hudman in care of a P.O. Box. My code name would be 'Phil'. My M.M. identification number was 105-823.

I was married in 1970 and was given permission to tell my wife of my activities with the FBI. As time passed, the work with the FBI became more and more time-consuming.

I was instructed not only to show more interest in the M.M. group but also told to join other organizations such as the 'White Citizens' Council of St. Louis' and the 'National States Rights Party' out of Savannah, Georgia. I was given membership and subscription fees including applications for the various groups.

More and more time and now trips was spent cultivating relationships with these organizations. Trips included:

- An expense paid trip to Kansas City, Missouri to see 'Hair' which was banned in St. Louis for the sole purpose of putting me in western Missouri which would give me the excuse to stop by Norborne, Mo. to meet the leaders of the M.M., Robert Taylor. Taylor, of Chicago, was temporary head of the M.M. because DePugh was in jail for gun-running. Taylor also enjoyed the weekend at government expense.
- An expense paid trip to a resort area of Arkansas for a racist rally to which I drove and took three St. Louis area racists whose attendance would have been questionable if transportation had not been provided.
- Trip to outstate Illinois for a racist rally.
- An expense paid trip to St. Louis from Chicago for Robert Taylor so that Taylor would not miss a press conference that had been arranged for him at the Bel-Air Hotel in St. Louis so that the FBI could monitor conference so they would know where M.M. stood on issues. (all arrangements had been made but Taylor had run out of money for the trip, so the FBI had to contribute.)
- An expense paid trip to Savannah, Georgia, (with a sidetrip to Florida for vacation) to meet Dr. Edward Fields, editor of the 'Thunderbolt'; J. B. Stoner, head of the N.S.R.P. and perennial gubernatorial candidate from the state of Georgia; and Jerry Ray, brother of James Earl Ray.

In the FBI report of that trip, (Savannah), it shows Jerry Ray stating that James Earl Ray 'did pull the trigger'. The original page of that report quoted Jerry as saying, at different times to different people, that his brother did pull the trigger, that he didn't and maybe he did!! The agent, Jacobsen, came by my house as he sometimes did, read the report, and told us to pull the page, retype it with all the contradictory statements removed, and to leave in just the one statement and fill the rest of the page with 'filler' so that the report would not look doctored.

The FBI still insists that an informers identity is never revealed to anyone without the approval of the informer, but yet the House Select Committee on Assassinations learned of my identity through the FBI.

The FBI files on me in St. Louis number approximately 100 to 150 pages and the files in Washington number approximately 1000 pages.

In January of 1978, Jim Haggerty of the St. Louis office of the FBI met me at a restaurant to warn me that the House Select Committee on Assassinations, (HSCA), would be calling on me to testify regarding the work I had done in the early '70's for the FBI. The evening after the meeting I wrote Haggerty a letter telling him to keep me out of it. I had done nothing for the FBI since '71 or '72 and knew nothing that could possibly help the HSCA.

In early February of 1978, I was approached by two HSCA investigators, Conrad 'Pete' Baetz and Mel Waxman. They asked if I would do the same thing for the HSCA that I had done for the FBI. I told them that I was planning a vacation to Florida and that I was not interested in becoming involved. Baetz and Waxman asked if I would be interested in stopping by Atlanta to renew my relationship with Dr. Edward Fields, J.B. Stoner, and Jerry Ray if the HSCA would pick up the expenses for the trip. I asked if they would pick up the expenses not only for the entire trip but would it be alright to take a friend and her two children. They agreed to do so.

One of the first assignments was to call Jerry Ray and renew our friendship from years before. During that call, and most calls thereafter, Pete Baetz listened on a monitor while the calls were also being recorded. I was told to call J.B. Stoner, Dr. Fields, and Mark Lane, James Earl Ray's attorney, and all of these calls were tape recorded and monitored by Pete Baetz. Baetz would hand me notes with questions to ask during these conversations. Baetz would take the tapes with him and regularly replace them with new government issue tapes.

Baetz spent between a 1/2 hour up to sometimes four or five hours a day usually four or five days a week at my house watching pornographic video tapes, playing my pinball machine, shooting the bull, and even having intercourse with one of the porno queens!! The investigative techniques employed by the HSCA certainly left no stone unturned!!

Toward the middle of February, Baetz had made the final arrangements for the trip to Florida. My girlfriend, her two children, and myself left for Florida and of course stopped in Atlanta to 'visit' Jerry Ray, Stoner, and Fields. At the time the HSCA was trying to link Stoner as the money man, and Jerry Ray as Raoul. We spent four days or so in Atlanta and were unable to turn up any new evidence! From there we continued the trip to Daytona Beach to meet with both Mel Waxman and Baetz. The 'purpose' of them traveling to Daytona was to tell me to get hair samples from Jerry Ray, Stoner, and Fields. The meeting in Daytona with Baetz and Waxman was actually for a few days in sunny Florida rather than for any investigative purpose. In discussions both before and after the trip, Baetz, Waxman, and myself, searched for reasons to return to Florida, and elsewhere south, and use the Ray-King case again and again for mini-vacations. We even tried to figure out how to carry the investigation to the Virgin Islands, which seemed like a nice place for an investigation.

On the return trip from Florida we once again spent several days in Atlanta 'visiting' Ray, Stoner, and Fields. My girlfriend got hair samples from a hair brush in the bathroom of the NSRP headquarters where Ray and Stoner lived. She had even searched the bottom of the tub and sink, around the toilet, and the shelves in the medicine cabinet. The samples of hair that she did find on this trip were lost on the trip back home to St. Louis.

Jerry Ray and I were scheduled to appear in Washington, D.C. to testify before the committee in early March but were both rescheduled in mid-April because of health problems which made it impossible for me to travel. Jerry Ray was rescheduled with me because the H.S.C.A. wanted us to travel to Washington together so that we would have plenty of time to talk, but, more importantly share rooms while in Washington for the sole purpose of searching his luggage and personal belongings for 'clues' that might be helpful in the investigation. I was told by Pete Baetz to copy anything I could on the copier in the lobby of the hotel and mail it to his P.O. Box in Wood River, Ill.

Some of the things found and interpreted by the HSCA were:

- Letters from James Earl Ray to Jerry Ray which possibly listed subjects which Jerry Ray should testify about.
- A map of Brushy Mountain Prison with notes on it planning another breakout attempt by James Earl Ray in James Earl Ray's own handwriting.

It was later determined that the breakout attempt was to occur around the 17th of May, 1978. According to Pete Baetz, a special meeting was held in Washington with Attorney General Griffin Bell, FBI head William Webster, HSCA Chief Counsel G. Robert Blakey, and a fourth party to examine the tape recordings, stolen letters and map; and it was decided at that meeting to put Jerry Ray under 24 hour FBI surveillance. (The tape recordings, if not illegal, were certainly contrary to the HSCA own rules and regulations which strickly forbid any electronic surveillance of any kind, and of course, the stolen papers were in possession of those at the meeting.) (On Sept. 15, 1978 in a speech in St. Louis Griffen Bell was highly critical of Mitchells role as Attorney General under the Nixon Administration in the handling of the Watergate tapes.)

- A key which the HSCA thought might fit a safty deposit box held by a member of the Ray family. (Later determined the key actually fit the gate to a dog pen at the NSRP headquarters.)
- An address book in the wallet of Jerry Ray which I mentioned to Baetz. Baetz started working on getting either a copier or a stenographer set up in an adjoining room so that a copy of the book could be made very quickly while Jerry Ray slept. Plans for this were called off before they transpired.
- Hair samples from Jerry Ray.

During the stay in each of the cities, Chief Deputy Counsel Michael C. Eberhardt would contact me to verify expenses and to check on any new vital information which I might have uncovered. No new evidence linking Jerry Ray to Raoul, J.B. Stoner as the money man, or any other new evidence was ever uncovered.

I laughed with Pete Baetz and Michael C. Eberhardt on numerous occassions when they would call Jerry Ray and tell him that he should not leave Atlanta because the HSCA was going to recall him to testify again any day. It was a never-ending game of harassment to keep Jerry Ray from going to Chicago to look for a job. The HSCA had no intentions of recalling Jerry Ray until the later part of the year, (November), and they were successful in keeping Jerry Ray unemployed.

On one occasion, I talked to Michael C. Eberhardt at about 2:00 in the morning and in the course of the conversation I asked him if he had listened to the audio tapes and watched the video tapes of Jerry Ray, and he said that as of then, 'he hadn't had time to as yet'.

In August, Mark Lane became aware of my involvement with HSCA and the HSCA became aware of his knowledge. My code name was changed from David Rodgers to Carl Drake. Pete Baetz said that if I wanted they could probably get the Justice Dept. to give me a change of identity and relocate me. Pete Baetz also 'suggested' that I might have a press conference and expose information on the Ray Case, Mark Lane's sex life, and other information which Baetz would give me. The HSCA arranged a press conference with the New York Times for me on August 6, 1978 and postponed it until the seventh because of the publicity of the Pope's death.

On August 5, 1978, Baetz gave me a handful of notes to use at the press conference dealing with information on Raoul, Lane being homosexual, and other scurrillous information.

On August 7, 1978, Horrock of the New York Times called me and made arrangements for the press conference to be held later that afternoon. Later, Horrock denied ever talking to me until I produced a tape recording of the conversation, then he ignored the situation. At noon of the seventh Anthony Marro of the New York Times arrived in St. Louis to interview me but when it became obvious that I was not having the press conference which the HSCA had set up for me, but instead 'my own', Marro engaged in a brief shoving match with Mark Lane and Donald Freed. Marro quickly returned to his room and called someone and was overheard saying, "I blew it". Other reporters present who knew about the press conference as mine, not the exclusive leak set up by the HSCA, were Chuck Neff, KTVI-TV ABC, John Auble, KSD-TV NBC, James Polk, NBC News Washington, and reporters from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Associated Press, etc.

The HSCA interviewed me in New York City in the office of my attorney, Melvin Wulf, on September 15, 1978. On the 6th day of September, 1978, the HSCA cleared itself of any wrongdoing, nine days before they talked to me or examined any of my evidence. To this day they have never even contacted one of approximately a dozen witnesses I have to back up my allegations. They have labeled me an "affidavit witness" which is particularly interesting since I have never signed an affidavit with or for the HSCA!! They have paid me for a portion of my expenses but yet deny that I ever did anything for them.

I have tape recordings of:

- Pete Baetz arranging press conference.
- Pete Baetz assuring me that I would be paid for my work.
- Horrock's telephone call to me arranging for Marro to come to St. Louis.
- Diane discussing her sexual relations with Baetz (relations took place during investigative time).

I have affidavits signed by witnesses who saw or heard:

- Pete Baetz give me information to use at press conference.
- Pete Baetz replace cassettes that were used to tape phone calls with new government issue tapes.
- Pete Baetz monitor, using earphones, the phone calls while they were being taped.
- Pete Baetz help install the listening devices.
- Pete Baetz make arrangements for me to be paid for work done for H.S.C.A.
- Pete Baetz and Mel Waxman telling me to retrieve hair samples from Jerry Ray, J.B. Stoner, and Dr. Fields, and anything else which might be interesting to investigation.
- Pete Baetz making arrangements with me to be sure to share rooms with Jerry Ray while in Washington for the purpose of searching Jerry Ray's personal belongings and copying anything which might be of investigative value.

On August 11, 1978, I was given a polygraph test administered by Chris Gugas, past President of the American Polygraph Association, of which the results were favorable.

Further abuse of power by the HSCA is demonstrated by an FBI file dated August 2, 1978 which shows that the HSCA notified the FBI that the testimony of Oliver Patterson (and Clarence Haynes) 'was responsible for establishing the fact that John Ray (another brother of James Earl Ray) perjured himself in testifying before the same committee. As a result of this perjury, John Ray's parole on a bank robbery conviction has been revoked'.

John Ray was jailed on the perjury charge for 6 month's, almost all of which was spent in solitary awaiting the hearing. The hearing came and went without the HSCA producing any evidence to support their charge.

In a letter to my Congressman, Harold Volkmer, from G. Robert Blakey, Blakey denies that my testimony was responsible for the perjury charge but yet the FBI files show that Blakey's HSCA specifically cited my testimony as the reason for the perjury charge. In a letter to Volkmer, I questioned which statement from Blakey did he believe. Volkmer has since turned the matter over to the FBI.

I have called on the United States Attorney in St. Louis, Robert Kingsland, and showed him proof of my allegations. He said that he could turn the matter over to the FBI but then they would be investigating themselves as did the HSCA. He also said that noone much cared about possible civil rights violations involving any of the Rays. He stated that Hoover was a pr---!

I mailed Senator Ted Kennedy a letter with numerous attachments and have received no response. (Kennedy is Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Comm.)

I mailed Speaker of the House Tip O'Neil a similar letter with attachments and received a post paid envelope asking me to contribute to his next campaign.

The same to Senator Orin Hatch of Utah and I did receive a phone call from his office thanking me for the information and any additional information which I might send them. (Hatch is on the Senate Judiciary Comm.)

I have written letters to Congressman Louis Stokes, Ohio, Chairman of the HSCA, none have been answered. I have called his office and my calls have not been returned.

I have written G. Robert Blakey, Chief Counsel for HSCA and my letters have gone unanswered. Mr. Blakey returned one of my phone calls and to every statement he responded, "no comment".

I called Congressman Samuel Devine of Ohio to make him aware of my allegations about the HSCA staff. Instead of returning my call, Mr. Devine called the HSCA investigators and told them to contact me. The same investigative staff I had made my allegations about.

In most of the letters and/or phone calls I volunteered to talk to the members of Congress and/or the Congressional members of the HSCA to make them aware of the investigative practices of their committee. My offers have not been accepted.

Out of twelve Congressmen on the HSCA, four have pulled away from the HSCA entire findings and six out of the twelve have pulled away from the fourth shot theory in the Kennedy assassination.

The HSCA has wasted 16 months and \$2 million dollars and is now preparing to release some 12 volumes of findings on the King assassination and some 28 volumes on the Kennedy assassination.

(FBI Special Agent Stanley Jacobsen is now working out of the Tampa, Florida office of the FBI.)

(After a leave of absence from the Madison County, Illinois, Sheriff's Office, Conrad "Pete" Baetz is back at Madison County as a Deputy Sheriff in charge of Public Relations.) (Baetz made \$24,000.00 with the HSCA and \$18,000.00 with Madison County.)

\*\*\*\*\*

Another ex-F.B.I. informer who worked also for the H.S.C.A. in the same capacity was Richard Geppert of Granite City, Illinois. The H.S.C.A. paid him to also go to Atlanta to try to find new evidence linking Jerry Ray as Raul and J.B. Stoner as the money man. These efforts by Geppert were also fruitless.

It is interesting to note that once these trips proved useless, the H.S.C.A. through questioning J.B. Stoner at the hearings tried to infer and/or prove that in fact J.B. Stoner was the one who brought Patterson and Geppert to Atlanta to persuade their testimony to conform with everyone else.

Stoner in fact has nothing to do with bringing Patterson and Geppert to Atlanta but it was entirely the HSCA that did.

It is also of interest that during the September 15th interview the H.S.C.A. held with Patterson in New York City, Mr. James Wolf of the H.S.C.A. stated that if Patterson was in fact an informer for the H.S.C.A., Patterson was the only one. This interview was taped and transcribed by the H.S.C.A..

Richard Geppert has a copy of a check he received from the H.S.C.A. proving that he did indeed do informant work for the H.S.C.A..